



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Alaska District

ANCHORAGE
Regulatory Division (1145)
CEPOA-RD
Post Office Box 6898
JBER, Alaska 99506-0898

Public Notice of Application for Permit

PUBLIC NOTICE DATE:	June 16, 2025
EXPIRATION DATE:	July 2, 2025
REFERENCE NUMBER:	POA-2018-00302
WATERWAY:	Miluveach River

Interested parties are hereby notified that a Department of the Army permit application has been received for work in waters of the United States as described below and shown on the enclosed project drawings.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: The purpose of this notice is to advise the public that the following request associated with the Cama'l Gravel Pad has been submitted for a Department of the Army (DA) permit under the provisions of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. In EO 14156 the President declared a national emergency under the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1621) based upon the finding that the United States' insufficient energy production, transportation, refining, and generation constitutes an unusual and extraordinary threat to our Nation's economy, national security, and foreign policy. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Alaska District has found that this permit request meets the terms of EO 14156 and is therefore subject to special emergency permitting procedures to address an energy supply situation which would result in an unacceptable hazard to life, a significant loss of property, or an immediate, unforeseen, and significant economic hardship if corrective action requiring a permit is not undertaken within a time period less than the normal time needed to process the application under standard procedures. The Alaska District will implement the special processing procedures approved by Pacific Ocean Division in accordance with 33 CFR § 325.2(e)(4).

APPLICANT: Ms. Ana E. Fisk, Afognak Leasing, LLC.

AGENT: Mr. Victor Ross, Stantec Consulting Services, Inc.

LOCATION OF WORK: The project site is located along Spine Road, within Section 4 & 5, T. 10 N., R. 8 E., Section 33, T. 11 N., R. 8 E., Umiat Meridian, North Slope Borough, Alaska (Latitude 70.2557, Longitude -150.1408).

DESCRIPTION OF WORK: The applicant proposes the discharge of approximately 135,500 cubic yards of fill resulting in impacts to 16.24 acres of palustrine wetland to facilitate the completion of the Cama'i gravel pad. The project received prior authorization on May 15, 2019, though the work was not completed before the April 30, 2024, expiration. The original project intent was to construct the pad in three phases, though the original phasing timeline has passed, therefore, the project would be fully constructed with the issuance of this proposal. The work completed under the previous authorization includes a portion of the Phase 1 gravel pad and two access roads, totaling 5.63 acres as depicted on sheet 2 of the attached project plans. The completed Cama'i pad would result in a total discharge of approximately 182,000 cubic yards of fill and a footprint area of 21.88 acres. The applicant's stated purpose is to complete construction of the previously authorized Cama'i pad to provide North Slope oil and gas operators space for the staging of materials and equipment.

APPLICANT PROPOSED MITIGATION: The applicant proposes the following mitigation measures to avoid, minimize, and compensate for impacts to waters of the United States from activities involving discharges of dredged or fill material.

- a. Avoidance: The applicant states that no fill would be placed into permanently inundated ponds or wetlands abutting permanently inundated ponds. Afognak proposes to construct the pad and driveways to match the existing grade of the Spine Road to provide for adequate ingress/egress currently anticipated. Complete avoidance of wetland is not practicable as there are no uplands in the area.
- b. Minimization: The applicant proposes the following minimization measures:
 - Project boundary would be marked prior to commencement of construction
 - The pad would be constructed with a 3:1 side slope to minimize the footprint across wetlands.
 - Natural drainage patterns would be maintained to the extent practicable.
 - Work would be completed from the existing pad, adjacent roadway, and fill outward toward wetlands where practicable, to minimize disturbance to wetlands.
 - No temporary stockpiling would occur on wetland outside the project footprint.

COMPENSATORY MITIGATION: The applicant has proposed no compensatory mitigation. The applicant has stated that there are currently no approved wetland mitigation banks within the service area. If a mitigation bank within the service area becomes available during the permit process, the applicant would consider the purchase of the credits commensurate to the proposed impacts.

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION: A permit for the described work will not be issued until a certification or waiver of certification, as required under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (Public Law 95-217), has been received from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.

HISTORIC PROPERTIES: In accordance with the special processing procedures established by Pacific Ocean Division, the district is coordinating with the State Historic Preservation Office or Tribal Historic Preservation Officer under 36 CFR Part 800.12 in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. This application is being coordinated with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), Federally recognized Tribes, and other consulting parties. Any comments SHPO, Federally recognized Tribes, and other consulting parties may have concerning presently unknown archeological or historic data that may be lost or destroyed by work under the requested permit will be considered in our final assessment of the described work.

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES: In accordance with the special processing procedures approved by Pacific Ocean Division in accordance with 33 CFR § 325.2(e)(4), the district is consulting with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) under 50 CFR Part 402.05 in accordance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT: In accordance with the special processing procedures established by Pacific Ocean Division, the district is consulting with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) under 50 CFR Part 600.920 in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. There is no essential fish habitat within the project area.

PUBLIC INTEREST: This application will be reviewed in accordance with 33 CFR Parts 320-332, the Regulatory Program of USACE, and other pertinent laws, regulations, and executive orders. Our evaluation will also follow the guidelines published by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to Section 404(b)(1) of the Clean Water Act (40 CFR Part 230). Interested parties are invited to state any objections they may have to the proposed work. The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit that reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors that may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; of those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. The district will make a permit decision after considering/addressing any comments submitted by the agencies.

COMMENTS: Comments and requests for additional information should be submitted electronically to Drew Sliger by email at drew.e.sliger@usace.army.mil or via the Regulatory Request System at <https://rrs.usace.army.mil/rrs>

If you do not have internet access, comments may be submitted through the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) to the following address:

United States Army Corps of Engineers
ATTN: Alaska District, Regulatory Division (CEPOA-RD)
Public Notice: POA-2018-00302
Post Office Box 6898, 2204 3rd Street
JBER, AK 99506-0898

Comments should only be provided through the USPS when electronic transmission is not possible. Precautionary internal mail handling procedures may be instituted to protect our workforce, which may result in longer than normal times to process and receive hard copy submissions. To be considered in our evaluation, comments submitted through the USPS should have a postmark dated on, or prior to, the close of the comment period, June 28, 2025.

Please note that submitted comments in response to this Public Notice become part of our administrative record and, as such, may be available to the public under provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. Thank you for your interest in our Nation's water resources.

District Commander
U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers

Enclosures